

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1704

## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

---

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES KIRKTON (Sponsor), PACE,  
OXFORD AND NEWMAN (Co-sponsors).

4573L.03I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

---

### AN ACT

To repeal section 376.1220, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to insurance coverage for hearing screenings and hearing aid devices.

---

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 376.1220, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 376.1220, to read as follows:

376.1220. 1. Each policy issued by an entity offering individual and group health insurance which provides coverage on an expense-incurred basis, individual or group health service, or indemnity contracts issued by a nonprofit corporation, individual and group service contracts issued by a health maintenance organization, all self-insured group health arrangements to the extent not preempted by federal law, and all health care plans provided by managed health care delivery entities of any type or description that are delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this state shall provide coverage for newborn hearing screening, necessary rescreening, audiological assessment and follow-up, [and] initial amplification, **including but not limited to all hearing aid devices, cochlear implants, assistive listening devices, and hearing assistive technology systems and accessories deemed necessary by a licensed physician or licensed audiologist based on the hearing screening and assessment.**

2. The health care service required by this section shall not be subject to any greater deductible or co-payment than other similar health care services provided by the policy, contract or plan.

3. This section shall not apply to a supplemental insurance policy, including a life care contract, accident-only policy, specified disease policy, hospital policy providing a fixed daily

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 benefit only, Medicare supplement policy, long-term care policy, short-term major medical  
18 policies of six months or less duration, or any other supplemental policy as determined by the  
19 director of the department of insurance, financial institutions and professional registration.

20 4. Coverage for newborn hearing screening and any necessary rescreening and  
21 audiological assessment shall be provided to newborns eligible for medical assistance pursuant  
22 to section 208.151, and the children's health program pursuant to sections 208.631 to 208.660,  
23 with payment for the newborn hearing screening required in section 191.925, and any necessary  
24 rescreening, audiological assessment and follow-up, and amplification as described in section  
25 191.928.

✓